PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY; I have seen the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not do that. Mr. Moolchand Meena.

श्री मूल चन्द मीणाः सवाल सूखे से संबंधित है...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राजू परमारः और इलाके भी हैं जहां ऐसी सिचुयेशन है...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then we take the next question. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Q. No. 564.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Sir, Can I put a question on Himachal Pradesh; I think, I can.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, on Himachal Pradesh, you can put.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I have already put my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we have moved to the next question. You have been asking many questions. So, it does not matter.

Criteria for VIP Security

*564. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 1st March, 2001, under the caption "Need for a scanning criteria for securitymen"; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for tightening the criteria for deploying commandos and security personnel on security duty with VIPs and at strategic points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a)
and (b) Yes Sir, Government is aware of these incidents of firing and suicide by the securitymen deployed on VIP protection duties. AH these four instances, are under investigation with local police. Before posting police personnel for close protection of highly threatened persons, their previous work and conduct is verified and proper

training is given. Surprise check of their performance is made and stringent action is taken against the defaulters. Welfare requirements of police personnel are looked after to keep them free from physical and mental tensions.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I have read the answer of the hon. Minister. I hope the hon. Minister is aware of the gravity of the whole situation. Security guards posted at the residences of hon. Chief Justice and Naval Chief are behaving in the most reckless manner. They are shooting people or are trying to kill themselves. A number of allegations against them keep on coming. In my State *here was an allegation that a commando along with the persons whom they were protecting entered the chamber of an IAS officer and tried to humiliate him. My first supplementary is whether you are having any stipulated guidelines known to all the officers responsible for posting all these security personnel.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Of the four instances referred to by the hon. Member, in two instances, there was firing at the residences of a Supreme Court Judge and the Naval Chief. The matters are under investigation. Of the rest of the two cases, one incident took place in the Parliament House and another in the house of a DCP. They are also under investigation. Only in these two instances, they have committed suicide.

There is a security scrutiny before deploying them for the security of VIPs. Ten days' training is given to them at the Delhi Potice Security Line. Besides that, the character and antecedents of
the security guards are checked frequently. If they go on leave, then also their antecedents are checked. Surprise checks are being made to see that there is no threat to protectees. Besides that, a number of other steps are being taken to read the mind of the guard so that he can function effectively in guarding the protectee.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, you may be aware that placements and deputation of security guards is by itself becoming a very critical issue in the country. People who do not need to have security are being provided with security and people who need it are being denied. Unfortunately, today, the placement of security has

become a status symbol. My second supplementary is, whether you are going to have a complete scrutiny and review as far as deployment of these security guards for VIP duty is concerned.

SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: This is being reviewed regularly. The number of protectees has been very much reduced. The extent of deployment of security guards to the protectees has also been reduced. If you take the year 2,000 as an instance, the number of protectees is also reduced and the number of security persons deployed with them is also reduced. If you take the five-years period, starting from 1997 to 2001, you will clearly find that the security deployment has been reduced after verifying the threat perception of the protectees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Enquiry into alleged burning of Quran in Delhi

*565. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked Delhi Police to enquire into the alleged burning of Quran in Delhi in March, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the enquiry has since been completed; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Delhi Police registered an FIR on 13th March, 2001 under sections 153, 153-A, 153-B, 295-A and 34 IPC at Tuglaq Road Police Station on the complaint lodged by Shri Abdul Wahab Khilji, Secretary General of Markazi Jamat Ahlehadis Hind in which it was, *inter alia,* alleged that in the course of demonstration organized on 5th March, 2001 by Vishwa Hindu Parishad and World Hindu Council to protest against the destruction of Buddha statues at Bamiyan, Afghanistan, the demonstrators burnt a copy of Holy Quran with the intention to outrage the religious beliefs of the